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be. He is a believer in state intervention rather than a follower of the classical tradition; whereby he recognizes that he is not likely to find great favor among the current custodians of economic authority in France.

Something of the method and the point of view of the work can be inferred from the following:

La physiocratie inspirée par Quesnay fonde tout son système sur une division tripartite de la société: A la base, une classe de producteurs, les exploitants du sol; au-dessus, une classe de propriétaires, dont fait partie l'Etat et qui prélève son revenu sur celui de la première classe; en marge des deux, la classe des parasites, c'est-à-dire de toutes les personnes qui vivent des services rendus aux membres des deux classes précédentes. *La richesse n'est obtenue que par la première classe; mais des droits sur elle circulent pour aboutir entre les mains de la deuxième et de la troisième* (p. 6).

Aucune refutation sérieuse n'a été faite de cette théorie, . . . elle exprime une vérité historique éternelle. *Partout et toujours il y a eu une classe qui a produit, une autre qui a d'autorité prélève sur elle, une troisième qui s'est ingéniée à vivre en rendant des services aux deux autres* (p. 6, 7).

*Les salaires, revenus de la première classe, n'ont aucune force ascensionnelle spontanée. Ils semblent avoir tiré de l'action volontaire des hommes tout ce qu'ils pouvaient et s'arrêter là* (p. 8).

H. J. DAVENPORT.

*University of Missouri.*

*Contemporary Social Problems. A Course of Lectures Delivered at the University of Padua.* By ACHILLE LORIA. Translated from the Italian with the permission of the author by JOHN LESLIE GARNER. (London: Swan Sonnenschein and Company; New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. 1911. Pp. vii, 156. \$1.00.)

In the preface the author says "anyone who seeks in these pages a profound and rigorous analysis of our social organization will be disappointed. However . . . the mere posing of a question, by inducing people to think, may not be fruitless." The point of view is that of the advanced radical economist. The first chapter develops his familiar thesis that "under the most diverse phenomena of contemporary social life, the profound, the essential cause is some economic fact." In the following chapters he traces the development of economic freedom and the modern limitations of liberty; reviews the theories of property; concludes that "Malthus' law has become a dead letter"; thinks that political economy and socialism are drawing closer together; discusses the social significance of natural selection; and, after an unsatisfac-

tory consideration of social evolution, asserts that we face a social revolution that will transfer power from a class to society as a whole. In general his conclusions present nothing new, though in some cases he makes good statements of commonly accepted views. They are marred by an occasional surprising assertion and by dogmatism on contested points as in the following: "Throughout his too short life Christ was a socialist and his communist theories undoubtedly led to his tragic end"; "the English require anyone ennobled by the King immediately to change his name, a wise custom, thanks to which the name of the family is not disgraced later by the degenerate descendants of the noble"; "the human conflict instead of favoring the stronger individual always aids the weaker." The mentioning of one of Zola's characters to prove that the offspring of great men are apt to be imbeciles exemplifies an occasional unscientific argument. All in all the book does not seem a very useful one.

HERBERT E. MILLS.

*Vassar College.*

*Bulletin Mensuel de l'Institut de Sociologie Solvay.* Edited by DR. EMILE WAXWEILER, Director of the Institute. (Brussels: Institut de Solvay.)

Probably the ablest scientific review devoted to sociology is the *Bulletin Mensuel* of the Solvay Institute of Sociology, Brussels, Belgium, of which the first number was published January, 1910. It is in the strictest sense a scientific periodical, being devoted to the review of all articles and books which contribute in any way to the explanation of the phenomena of the social life, whether they are published under the titles of biology, physiology, psychology, or those of the several social sciences, history, law, political economy, science of religions, ethnography and sociology. The review is divided into two parts, the first of which contains in place of original articles a dozen or more critical reviews of significant articles and books along sociological lines. These critical discussions include works pertaining both to human sociology and to general biology, physiology and psychology so far as they have a bearing upon sociology. The second part of the *Bulletin* is devoted to a "monthly chronicle," giving lists of recent works along all lines which might pertain to the social sciences and brief reviews of the more important of these works. There is also a portion of this monthly chronicle devoted to scientific news of ac-